

and when he left the service he decided to remain in the Vallejo area with his family. He received his business degree from Solano Community College in 1973.

Mr. Gourley joined the IBEW Local 180 in 1978 while he was working as a construction electrician. Even as he continued to work, he pursued a teaching credential from the University of California at Berkeley. He became credentialed in 1983, and has taught classes through an apprenticeship program for many years.

In 1988, Mr. Gourley was elected to the executive board of Local 180, and has since served 3 terms while taking on a variety of other responsibilities on behalf of numerous local and State labor interests. Within Local 180, he has served 3 terms as the Business Manager Financial Secretary, helping to guide the financial activity of the group.

Mr. Gourley has also served with numerous other organizations, including the California Electricians Public Relations Committee, the Vallejo Unified School District, and beginning in 2001 he was tapped to use his teaching experience with the California Electrical Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee. He has also been extensively involved with the committees of the Northern California Sound and Communication workers. In 2003 he was appointed to assist and lead the very important work of the Council on Industrial Relations.

Madam Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we thank Bruce Gourley for his many years of service to the labor community. His extensive efforts to educate future generations of electrical workers, and his determination to foster a productive negotiating environment in northern California have been extremely valuable.

HONORING WOMEN IN SERVICE AND ENTERPRISE

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2007

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Speaker, for the past six years, the greater Mesquite area has embraced the opportunity to honor many exceptional women in the community through the Women in Service and Enterprise (WISE) Award Luncheon and Style Show. Today I would like to honor this year's award recipient, Dr. Linda Henrie, who is an example of strong, capable and dedicated leadership. I would also like to recognize honorees Patti Hawkins, Pat Ogles and Marjorie Seward for their valuable service and commitment to their community.

Dr. Henrie is the Superintendent of the Mesquite Independent School District (MISD) where she oversees more than 34,000 students and more than 4,000 professional and auxiliary staff. She has served in this position with distinction since 2001.

Dr. Henrie has served on numerous boards in the greater Mesquite community including: The Board of Directors for Mesquite Social Services, the Board of Directors for the Mesquite Symphonic Band and as President of the Mesquite Education Association. Dr. Henrie also serves as President of the Texas Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development and the Dallas County Workforce De-

velopment Board. In addition to being active in the community and holding multiple leadership roles, Dr. Henrie has been recognized for the Association of Texas Professional Educators' Administrator of the Year Award in 2002 and was named one of the 100 Heroes of MISD.

Past WISE Award winners have served in a variety of ways, but they are united by the long-lasting impact they have made on their community. Their service, community involvement and dedication to enterprise continue to inspire younger generations.

Today, I would like to recognize all of the WISE honorees for their outstanding service and congratulate them on their awards. Thank you, ladies, for helping make our community and country a better place.

OFFERING HEARTFELT CONDO- LENCES TO THE VICTIMS AND THEIR FAMILIES REGARDING THE HORRIFIC VIOLENCE AT VIRGINIA TECH AND TO STU- DENTS, FACULTY, ADMINISTRA- TION AND STAFF AND THEIR FAMILIES WHO HAVE BEEN AF- FECTED

SPEECH OF

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2007

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I recognize the tragic deaths of the 32 victims in the shootings at Virginia Tech this past Monday.

These 32 individuals did nothing to deserve this awful fate and should never have had their lives prematurely ended by the horrific actions of one disturbed individual. One of the shooting's victims, Ryan Clark, served as a volunteer counselor at a camp for mentally impaired children. Ryan was described by the camp's administrator as "one of the kindest, most compassionate people" whom she had ever met. Another victim, Henry Lee, graduated second in his high school class, despite having immigrated from China and having had to learn English as his second language. And Liviu Librescu, a Holocaust survivor, displayed heroism all the way to the end by sacrificing his own life by barricading the door to his classroom to give many of his students enough time to escape through the classroom window.

In the lives of these 32 innocent individuals we find countless examples such as these, of kindness, compassion and determination. I would like to extend my warmest sympathies to the families and friends of these individuals, as well as to the entire Virginia Tech community.

Unfortunately, we have seen tragedies like this one numerous times in our Nation's history. In my own home state of Texas, we lost 15 of our citizens in a similar rampage four decades ago at the University of Texas at Austin.

I believe that, in this time of tragedy, we must honor the shooting's victims, offer the people of Blacksburg our utmost condolences and support, and, most of all, renew our commitment as a country to doing everything in our power to helping communities prevent similar tragedies from taking place in the future.

I commend my colleague, the gentleman from Virginia, Mr. BOUCHER for introducing this resolution.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE WITH RESPECT TO RAISING AWARENESS AND ENCOURAGING PREVENTION OF SEXUAL AS- SAULT

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 23, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 289, which expresses the "sense of the House of Representatives with respect to raising awareness and encouraging prevention of sexual assault in the United States and supporting the goals and ideals of National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month.

I was the lead Democratic sponsor of the original legislation, introduced by former Representative Mark Green and signed into law in 2003, that designated April as National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month.

While we are taking the time today to highlight this important issue, it is important that we remember that preventing sexual assault should be a top priority during each month of the year. We must also remember that violence against women is not just a women's issue, it is a men's issue, too.

Every 2½ minutes, someone in the United States is sexually assaulted. I have long been a champion of increased efforts to prevent violence against women and in 2004, legislation that I first introduced, "The Debbie Smith Act," was signed into law. Through this landmark act, we have the ability to protect our daughters, our sisters, and our friends by putting rapists behind bars through DNA evidence. We know that DNA evidence is better than a fresh set of fingerprints. And we know that it is often better than eyewitness testimony. With "The Debbie Smith Act," the hundreds of thousands of rape kits that were gathering dust across the country are finally being processed.

It is vitally important that we support the Violence Against Women Act by fully funding the important programs that will help women escape abusive and dangerous situations and begin new lives that are free from violence and fear. The organizations, shelters, and counseling centers that are on the front lines of this problem need our steadfast commitment that they will have the resources to continue their important work.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

HONORING THE UKIAH MAIN STREET PROGRAM FOR 20 YEARS OF SUCCESSFUL COMMUNITY SERVICE

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2007

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Ukiah